

### REMARKS

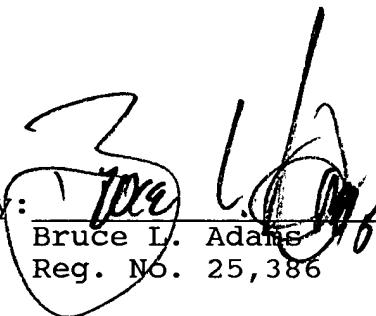
In order to place this application in condition for a complete action on the merits, the specification has been suitably revised to correct informalities and to bring it into better conformance with U.S. practice. A new abstract which more clearly reflects the invention to which the amended and new claims are directed has been substituted for the original abstract.

Original claims 1-8 have been amended to correct informalities, improve the wording, and bring them into better conformance with U.S. practice. New claims 9-20 have been added to provide a fuller scope of coverage. Adequate support for the subject matter recited in new claims 9-20 may be found in the specification as originally filed.

Early and favorable action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAMS & WILKS  
Attorneys for Applicants

By:   
Bruce L. Adams  
Reg. No. 25,386

50 Broadway - 31st Floor  
New York, NY 10004  
(212) 809-3700

MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Debra Buonincontri

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November 19, 2004

Date